REMARKS

This corrected response hereby incorporates the response accompanying the Request for Continued Examination filed March 7, 2006. In view of the following discussion, the Applicant believes that all claims are in allowable form.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 37-54 stand rejected as being obvious in view of United States Patent 5,532,190 issued on July 2, 1996 to *Goodyear, et al.* (hereinafter *Goodyear*). The Applicant respectfully disagrees. However, the Applicant has amended claims 37 and 54 to more clearly recite aspects of the invention.

Specifically, the Applicant has amended claims 37 and 54 to recite that the first portion is different from the second portion, and that the first step is different from the second step.

In a teleconference on March 6, 2006 between Examiner Shamim Ahmed and Alan Taboada, the Examiner agreed that, as amended, independent claims 37 and 54 recite limitations not taught or suggested by the cited art.

Thus, the Applicant submits that independent claims 37 and 52, and all claims depending therefrom are patentable over *Goodyear*. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the Applicants submit that all claims now pending are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issuance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that any unresolved issues still exist, it is requested that the Examiner telephone <u>Mr. Alan Taboada</u> at (732) 935-7100 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>March 20, 2006</u>
Date

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